



Earth Explorers Program Overview

Rapid Spacecraft Industry Day December 7, 2000





Outline



- Background
- Organization
- Current Projects / Missions
- Earth System Science Pathfinder Project
 - Highlights
 - Mission Selection Process
 - Mission Selection Status





Program Objectives



- Primary Objective: To provide pathfinder exploratory and process driven measurements answering innovative and unique Earth science questions related to the atmosphere, oceans, land surface, polar ice regions and solid Earth.
 - Missions are of a relatively short duration, demonstrating process measurements which may lead to eventual Earth science systematic measurements and data set goals.
 - Missions are characterized by relatively low to moderate cost and are small to medium sized missions capable of being designed, developed, integrated, tested and launched in a reasonable period of time.
 - Quick-turnaround projects (e.g. QuikScat, QuikToms, etc.) have extremely short formulation and implementation periods providing rapid initiation of science measurements.
 - Missions utilize innovative management processes and techniques.





Earth Explorers Program



Enterprise: Earth Science

Lead Center: GSFC

GSFC, JPL, LaRC, KSC, JSC **Performing Centers:**

Program Manager: John Campbell (Acting), Nicholas Chrissotimos (Deputy)

Program Type: Science

ESSP: Vegetation Canopy Lidar (VCL); Gravity Recovery and Climate Experiment (GRACE); PICASSO-CENA; CloudSat; VOLCAM (Alternate ESSP) **Projects:**

UnESS: Experiments of Opportunity (SAC-C, SLA)

QuikTOMS

TRIANA

Partners: CNES, DLR (Germany), CSA, UMCP, UTCSR, CSU, USAF,

DOE

Program Description: The Earth Explorers Program develops and launches remote

sensing missions, provides ground support systems, and

collects and processes data for expanding scientific

knowledge of the Earth in the area of climate and terrestrial

and marine ecosystems



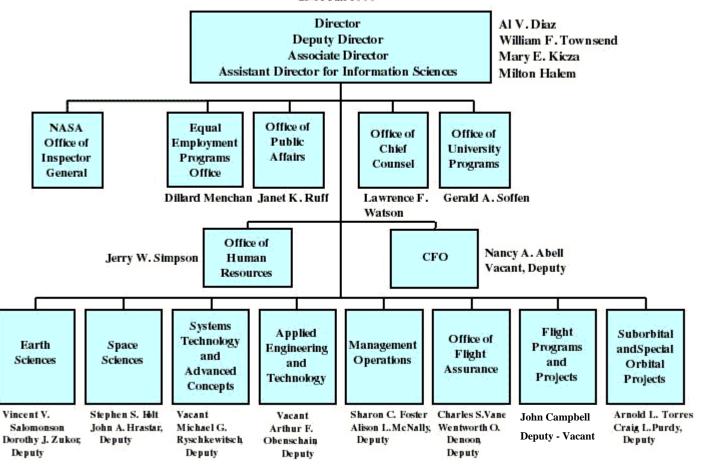


GSFC Organization



Goddard Space Flight Center

as of Jan 1999

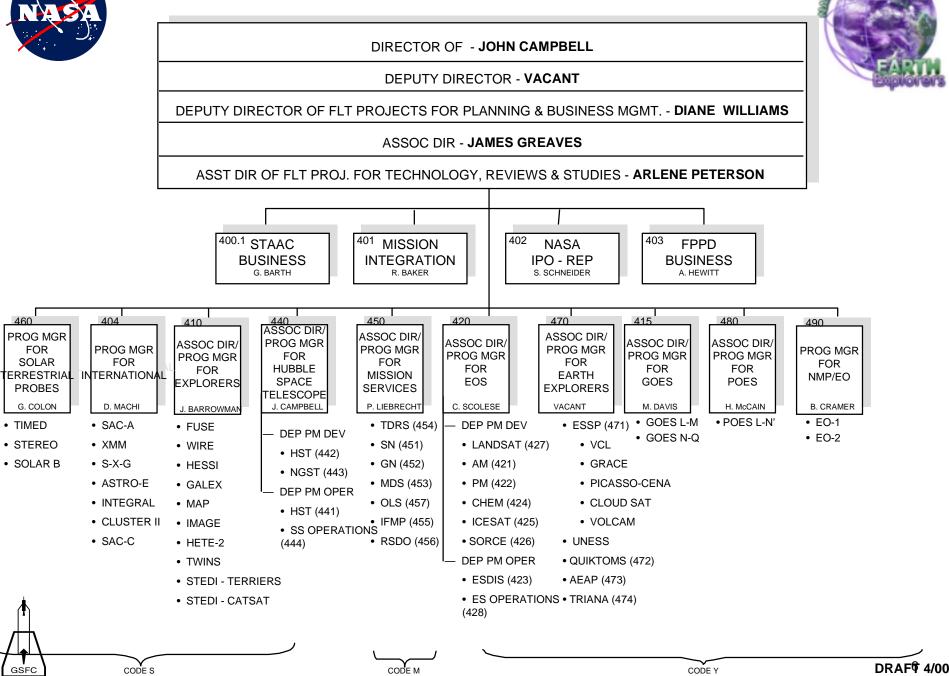




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FLIGHT PROGRAMS & PROJECTS DIRECTORATE

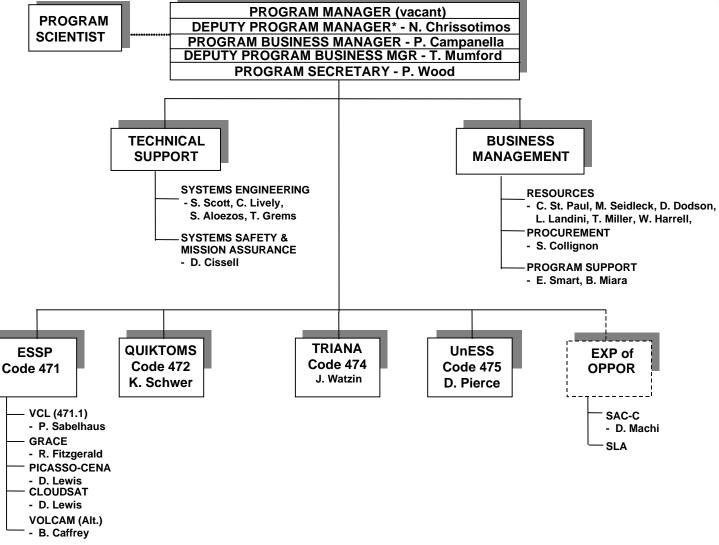


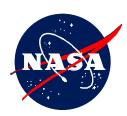


EARTH EXPLORERS PROGRAM

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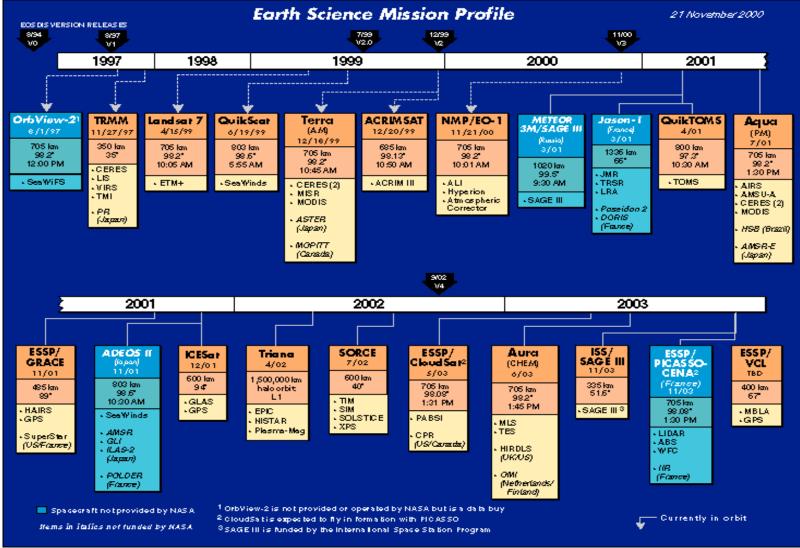






Earth Science Enterprise Missions



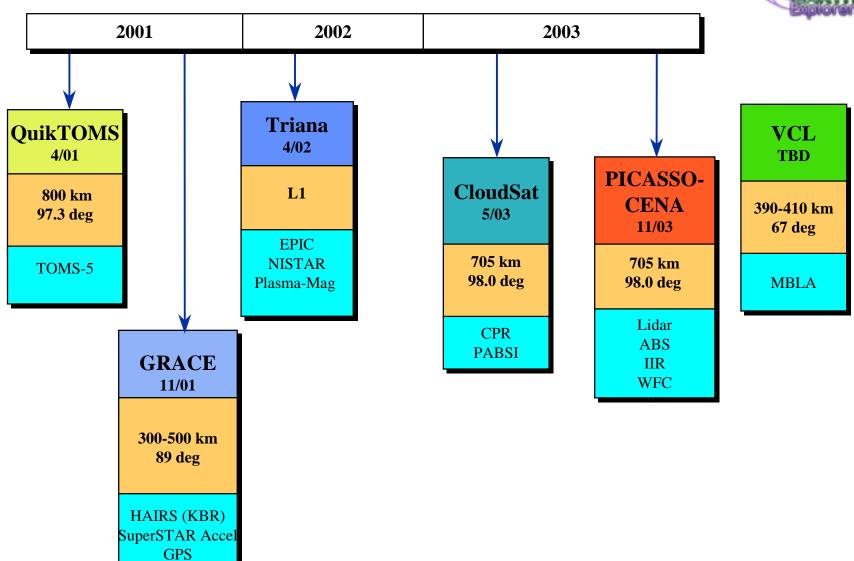






Earth Explorers Mission Profile







ESSP PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS



- □ Peer-Reviewed Science Investigations Selected via Announcement of Opportunity (AO) released every two years.
- Series of Small, Quick Turnaround, Low Cost Missions Launched on a Yearly Basis
 - Spaceborne Earth System Science Investigations
- □ Principal Investigator (PI) Responsible for Science Integrity and Assembling Team for Complete Mission Implementation (PI-Mode)
 - PI Accountable for Mission Success
 - University/Industry/Government/FFRDC and International Teaming
- Opportunities for Commercialization, Educational and Public Outreach





ESSP AO-3 HIGHLIGHTS



- AO-3 scheduled for release in January 2001
- Scientific focus of proposed mission must be clearly beyond the scope of existing projects.
- Launch Vehicle services will be provided and managed by NASA
- Two-Step proposal evaluation process
- 3-4 Primary Missions will be selected and funded through MCR
- Targeted cost cap for each mission is \$125M excluding launch vehicle
- Foreign and domestic contributions are allowed (no \$ limit)



ESSP AO PROCESS

FARTH

- Two-Step Process
- Step one:
 - Proposal peer reviewed on science and instrumentation
 - Mission and project management approach secondary
 - Limited number of proposals recommended to proceed to step-two based on science rating
- Step two:
 - Proposals evaluated on science changes from step-one, technical, management, cost and opportunity (education, outreach, SDB etc.)
 - Multiple primary missions (up to 4) selected and funded to proceed through Mission Confirmation Review (MCR)
- □ Final primary mission(s) (up to 2) selected by Earth Science Enterprise Associate Administrator after completion of all MCRs.
- Contracts awarded for selected missions





Current ESSP AO-3 Schedule



Draft AO	Release	TBD

Draft AO Comments Due
TBD

■ AO Release January 31, 2000

Pre-proposal Conference
February 15, 2001

■ Notices of Intent Due February 28, 2001

☐ Step-One Announcement May 15, 2001

☐ Step-Two Proposals Due August 15, 2001

Non-U.S. Letter(s) of Endorsement Due September 14, 2001

Step-Two Announcement of Selections November 9, 2001



Website: http://essp.larc.nasa.gov/essp



UnESS Highlights



- UnESS missions are very low cost, principle investigator-led space flight missions that substantially involve students in all aspects of the mission, including scientific/applications question formulation, mission formulation, design, development, implementation, scientific data analysis, and outreach.
- UnESS missions encompass the entire project lifecycle from definition through design, development, integration and test, launch, operations, science data analysis and data distribution.
- UnESS missions are peer-reviewed science investigations selected from proposals submitted in response to an AO released by the Office of Earth Science.





UnESS AO PROCESS



- Two-Step Process
 - Step one:
 - Proposal peer reviewed on education and science
 - Mission and project management approach secondary
 - Cost reviewed
 - Limited number of proposals recommended to proceed to step-two
 - Step two:
 - NASA paid studies to develop Concept Study and Proposal
 - TMCO evaluation of Concept Study
 - Ratings and findings developed and presented to OES
- Mission selection(s) made by Earth Science Enterprise Associate Administrator
- Contracts awarded for selected missions

